

Attorney's Docket:  
074036.0108

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Patent No.:  
09/746,822

263B  
2/19  
3/24/04  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Islam, et al

Serial No.:

09/746,822

Filing Date:

December 22, 2001

Group Art Unit:

2633

Examiner:

Hanh Phan

Confirmation No.:

8908

Title:

*Apparatus and Method for Optical Add/Drop  
Multiplexing*

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Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents

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*Willie Jiles*

Willie Jiles

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

In response to the Official Action mailed February 20, 2004, solely for the purpose of advancing prosecution of this case and without addressing the veracity of Examiner's election requirement, Applicants hereby elect to prosecute Species A (Figure 16B) without traverse. Applicants submit that at least Claims 1-13, 25-33, 39, and 41-42 read on the species elected species. Species B (Claims 14-24, 34-38, and 40) are withdrawn from the above-identified patent application without prejudice or disclaimer. This election is made to expedite issuance of a patent from this Application. Applicants do not necessarily agree with or acquiesce to the Examiner's conclusion reflected in the Office Action.